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Visit us on-line at [www.wsn.org](http://www.wsn.org)

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March 14, 2001

Thank you for downloading this sample Conservation Congress meeting resolution and instruction sheet!

### **Changes for 2001**

There was an effort this past year to cut down on the length of Conservation Congress meetings. This effort resulted in a reduction in the number of resolutions on the statewide printed ballot.

The good news is that resolutions may *still* be introduced from the floor at individual county meetings with the following restrictions:

- Resolutions must not exceed 250 words, and
- Only two resolutions may be submitted per individual

The resolution on the next page meets the 250-word limit, but if you want to introduce more than two resolutions, you'll need to enlist a friend.

Good luck. And thanks for placing this issue on your county's meeting agenda.

Sincerely,

Todd Hanson

**RESOLUTION TO RESTORE THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE CITIZENS'  
NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD**

**THE PROBLEM:**

When the Department of Natural Resources was created in 1967 by Chapter 75, it was devised to fulfill Wisconsin's constitutionally mandated "Public Trust" responsibilities of protection and enhancement of the people's natural resources.

A seven-member citizens board, independent of bureaucratic pressure and political control, was given the responsibility to implement state and federal laws which would protect and enhance our natural resources so they would be passed on to succeeding generations undiminished in quality or quantity.

The Conservation Congress was created as an independent citizens group to advise the Natural Resource Board on matters pertaining to protection and management of the people's natural resources.

But in 1995 — in spite of the people's strong objection to changing this system — the Legislature gave the Governor complete control of the DNR. This change reduced the DNR Board to an advisory body, leaving the people's natural resource decisions to the discretion of politicians influenced by well-financed, special-interest lobbyists.

**QUESTION: Should the citizens' Natural Resources Board be given the powers and independence it had before 1995, including the power to appoint the secretary of the DNR?**

Submitted on April 6, 2001, in \_\_\_\_\_ County by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
name

\_\_\_\_\_  
address

\_\_\_\_\_  
city                      state                      zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
phone

**RECORD OF VOTE:**        \_\_\_\_\_ Yes

   \_\_\_\_\_ No